

DEATH OF SENATOR HARRIS

His Career Began Earlier Than That of Any Member of Either House.

WENT TO CONGRESS IN 1849.

Was Elected Governor of Tennessee Three Times—He Served on the Staffs of Noted Southern Generals.

Senator Isham G. Harris, of Tennessee, died at his residence in Washington, on the 8th, a few minutes before 5 o'clock. Senator Harris was last in the Senate chamber about ten days ago, but he was unable to stay for any length of time, and had to be taken home in a carriage. During the past six months the Senator has been able to attend to his duties only at intervals, having been away from the city several times endeavoring to recuperate.

Troubled no man in public life had been identified with more of the history of the country than had Senator Harris. He had almost completed his 70th year, having been born in February, 1818, and first became a member of Congress in 1849. His congressional career thus began earlier than that of any member of either House, antedating Senators Morrill and Sherman by several years, and Hon. Galusha A. Brown, now a member of the House from Pennsylvania, by one year. Mr. Harris, however, he was elected to the national House of Representatives, had already become a man of State reputation in Tennessee, having the year previously served as special elector on the Democratic ticket.

Senator Harris represented the ninth Tennessee district in Congress for the two terms ending in 1853, when he declined a renomination. He then moved to Memphis, where he has since resided. He was engaged in the practice of law until 1857, with the interruption necessary to allow him to become a presidential elector in 1856. He was three times in success on before the war elected Governor of his State, and was serving in that capacity when the war broke out. He took a pronounced stand for the Southern Confederacy, and was known as one of the Southern war Governors. The vicissitudes of conflict rendered a frequent change of residence necessary, and he was often with the army in the field. He attached himself at different times to the staffs of General Albert Sidney Johnston, Joseph E. Johnston, Beauregard and Bragg. Albert S. Johnston fell from his horse into Senator Harris' arms, when he received his death wound.

After Lee's surrender Mr. Harris was one of a small party of political refugees who fled to Mexico, going across country on horseback. Parson Brownlow, who had become the military Governor of Tennessee, offered a large reward in a characteristically worded poster, for the capture of his predecessor, but the latter remained absent from the country until his return was safe. He remained in Mexico for several months, going thence to England, where he resided until 1867, when he returned to Memphis and resumed his practice of law. He was allowed to follow the pursuits of the private citizen until 1877, when he was elected to the United States Senate, defeating Hon. L. L. Hawkins, Republican. He remained a member of the Senate ever since, and would have completed his 25th consecutive year in that body on the 4th of next March, if he had lived to that date. He had been four times elected to the Senate, the last time in 1893, and his term would not have expired until 1901. He had received almost all the honors the Senate could bestow. He was the President pro tem, during the 53d Congress, a leading member of the committee on the judiciary, and also a member of the Democratic advisory, or steering committee. He has long been awarded by common consent the front place on both sides of the chamber in parliamentary questions, and he has been heard in expounding these questions than in the elucidation of other subjects. He was possessed of a very positive manner, and never failed to throw into his statements concerning parliamentary practice the fullest force of which he was capable.

Senator Harris was especially active in the Senate in the passage of the Wilson-Gorman tariff act in 1894. He was one of the Democratic Senators introduced with the arduous duty of putting the bill in shape in committee, and to him was delegated the control of the parliamentary work of getting the bill through the Senate. Although the years advanced, his energies never seemed to flag. He was at his post of duty day and night.

Senator Harris was a native of Tennessee. His father was a planter, who had emigrated to the State from North Carolina. He was admitted to the bar in 1841.

His remains were taken to Memphis, Tenn., for burial.

SALE OF TURNPIKE CHARTER. Famous Cumberland Turnpike Over Which Andrew Jackson Traveled. The charter of the once famous Cumberland (Tenn.) turnpike has been sold to Cumberland county, at Crossville, for \$75. This was one of the first roads built in Tennessee and over it emigrants came from North Carolina and Virginia when it was but a trail. When stage coaches were in vogue the mail from Knoxville to Nashville was carried over this road, and over it passed "Old Hickory" on his pilgrimage from the "Hermitage" to Washington to take the oath of office as President of the United States.

Farm for Raising Cats. A company has purchased a farm in Illinois, where cat farming will be carried on for the skins, which sell for from 10 to 15 cents each. Maltese and black cats will be reared, and the "cat-fish" collection is expected to number 10,000 in one year and 100,000 in two years.

Against Sunday Funerals. The clergymen of Alexandria, Va., have organized a movement against Sunday funerals.

STRIKE WILL NOT LAST LONG.

The Cotton Mills Have a Steadily and Increasing Trade.

Messrs. R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade, ending Saturday, 10th, says: The strike of the bituminous coal miners has taken 75,000 men or more from work and threatens to restrict supplies of fuel in some quarters, though the West Virginia and some other mines which declined to take part, claim to be able to meet the Eastern demand for some months. At the West the strike is by no means entirely sustained, and the impression prevails that it will not last long. The tin plate works have settled the wage question, and are again busy, and show a production of 4,500,000 boxes yearly, with a capacity of 6,250,000 boxes. The bar mills have more trouble, but a general settlement of iron and steel wages is expected without much delay. New orders are small since the annual vacation began, but yet are large enough, everything considered, to afford some encouragement. The cotton mills have a steady and increasing demand, and the quotations of middling uplands have been advanced a sixteenth, added by speculative strength on receipts of crop damage, especially in Texas and Arkansas. The dealers here are getting decidedly more orders for fall wants and beginning hopefully on spring goods, but are cautious in contracts for future delivery. Some have made large purchases of wool by far the greater part of the sales, with an amount to \$1,250,000 pounds at three chief markets for the week, have been of a speculative character. Western prices are held much above those of seaboard markets, Montana scored being sold, according to reports, at the equivalent of 43 cents at the East, against 38 at Boston and 40 at Philadelphia. There is a better demand for domestic wool in expectation of higher prices.

While the most cautious estimates of wheat yield have been advanced, that of the Orange Judd Farmer to 575,000,000, prices have lifted nearly 31 cents, although Atlanta exports, four included, were for the week 1,503,952 bushels, against 1,418,328 last year. Western receipts are small, only 1,395,632 bushels, against 2,978,400 last year, and the disposition of the farmers to hold for higher figures is strengthened by many foreign reports. It seems to be the fact that crops in other countries are less promising than usual, and the demand for American wheat is supplemented, even at this season, by exports of 2,005,584 bushels of corn, against 530,610 bushels for the same week last year. Each week raises the estimates of the estimates of the wheat yield, however, and if the weather continues favorable, the crop may prove a most important factor in the future national and international business prostrations now as to corn is growing more cheerful each week, and an immense crop is now anticipated.

Failures for the week have been 206 in the United States, against 215 last year.

RECORD OF THE HOT WAVE.

Chicago Appears to Have Suffered More Severely Than Any Other Section. The fierce heat under which the greater portion of the country has sweated since the first of July has moderated in many localities. The record of prostrations and deaths resulting from the long heated term approaches in magnitude that of a general epidemic. Reports from all sections of the country show prostrations numbering in the neighborhood of 5,000 with fatalities close to 350. In addition to this, there were scores of deaths resulting indirectly from the terrible heat. The death rate in many of the large cities shows a marked increase over previous years. The Central States have suffered more than the other States. In the number of fatalities, Chicago heads the list with 87 deaths, Cincinnati and suburban points reporting 82, and St. Louis 42. Throughout the South the heat was intense, but the death rate was much lower than in the North.

A DISPENSARY KNOCK-OUT.

The Original Package Injunction Made Permanent. In the United States Circuit Court at Charleston, S. C., Judge Simonton handed down a decision which renders perpetual the injunction recently granted, prohibiting State dispensary establishments from interfering with the original package store of W. G. Moore, of New York.

The Conditions of Cotton. The July returns for cotton to the Department of Agriculture, indicates average condition of 86.0, as compared with 83.5 in June, an increase of 2.5 points. The average condition July 1, 1896, was 92.7. The averages of the States are as follows: Virginia, 87; North Carolina, 90; South Carolina, 86; Georgia, 85; Florida, 80; Alabama, 86; Louisiana, 89; Texas, 88; Arkansas, 88; Tennessee, 87; Missouri, 90; Oklahoma, 82; Mississippi, 81; Indian Territory, 93.

A Mysterious Murder. Parties hunting near Quitman, Ga., find a barrel in the swamps, in which are the remains of a woman cut into pieces; there is no clue to the identity of the victim.

McKinley's Summer Vacation. President McKinley will spend most of his summer vacation on the shores of Lake Champlain, Plattsburg, N. Y. His party will consist of the members of the presidential family, of Vice-President and Mrs. Hobart, Secretary Alger and family, Secretary and Mrs. Porter, and probably several other members of official families of Washington. The president will make quite a prolonged stay, lasting several weeks at least.

THE PENSION APPLICATIONS.

An Address to the Friends of Public Education.

WILMINGTON'S TREAS. EMPTY.

Tramps Are Being Arrested—Poisoned by Ice Cream—Dispensary Law in Full Swing at Fayetteville.

The North Carolina Teachers' Assembly at Morehead City, appointed a central executive committee of the campaign for local taxation consisting of the following gentlemen: Hon. C. H. Mabey, Superintendent Public Instruction, chairman; Prof. R. L. Flowers, of Trinity College; President E. A. Alderman, of the University; President C. D. Melver, of the State Normal and Industrial College; President C. E. Taylor, of Wake Forest College; President L. L. Hobbs, of Guilford College; Prof. J. O. Atkinson, of Elon College; Prof. H. L. Smith, of Davidson College; President John C. Scarborough, of Chowan Baptist Female Institute; Superintendent Alexander L. D. Howell, of Raleigh; J. Bailey, of the Biblical Recorder; Joseph Daniels, of the News and Observer; Prof. Hugh Morrison, of Raleigh Male Academy; Prof. D. H. Hill, of the Agricultural and mechanical College, and W. H. Ragsdale, county examiner of Pitt.

A large committee has been selected and their names will be announced within a few days. Many of the leaders of public thought in North Carolina have consented to serve on this committee. The central executive committee, realizing the necessity for an active campaign between now and the 10th of August, when the election is to be held, and realizing that it is necessary to send literature and public speakers among the people, desires to raise a campaign fund for this purpose, to enable it to do this work. The teachers themselves while at Morehead City began to raise a fund for this purpose, and the central committee appointed the undersigned sub-committee to appeal to the friends of public education throughout the State for contributions.

The teachers at their recent meeting at Morehead City were united in their support of the local taxation to be voted upon in August, and the editors of this meeting passed unanimous resolutions offering support and sympathy to the teaching profession and the people of the State in the movement for better public school facilities.

Many men in cities and communities which have already voted a special local tax to supplement the State school tax, and are enjoying the blessings of good public schools. None of these communities will participate in the election in August, nor will their taxes be affected however the election goes. The general interest of the State, however, will be affected and we believe that many of these men, knowing the desirability of a special local tax for schools in every township in North Carolina will cheerfully make contributions to carry on the campaign to induce others to do what they have been doing for several years with advantage to themselves and to their communities.

A tax upon which we are to vote is small, being generally only 10 cents on the \$100 worth of property, or \$1 on the \$100, and 30 cents on each poll. If the tax should be increased to 15 cents, \$5,000 would pay only \$5.30 special school tax. Probably three-fourths of the citizens of the State would pay less than \$1.

It is estimated that this small tax would increase the public school facilities in North Carolina from 40 to 100 per cent, depending upon the conditions peculiar to the various townships.

Let all who will, send their contributions immediately, or their subscriptions payable July 15th. Let all checks be made payable to Hon. C. H. Mabey, chairman of the State central executive committee.

It may be more convenient for some to contribute through their local newspapers and it is hoped that some of these will open a column for subscriptions and receipt for the same by publishing the names of the contributors. In no way could the interest and earnestness in this great campaign be better shown than by a large number of contributors to the cause.

Very respectfully,
CHAS. D. McCLURE, Chairman.
EDWIN A. ALDERMAN,
R. L. FLOWERS,
ALEXANDER GRAHAM.

A dispatch from Wilmington says the city treasury is empty and the current expenses of the city exceed \$6,000 a month, while the income, less than \$1,500 a month, and the revenue collectable until October.

Tramps are being freely arrested along the railroads in the Piedmont section and are being sent to the roads to work. The Southern railway is particularly active in its efforts to capture all tramps on its line.

Pension applications are fairly pouring in upon the State Auditor, and the latter declares the number will be greater than ever before.

Fourteen persons were poisoned at Raleigh by eating ice cream. All save two were made extremely sick.

The dispensary law is in full swing at Fayetteville and sales of liquor are heavy.

A new alumni building is soon to be erected at the University at a cost of \$25,000. It is to be paid for by the alumni of the University and not by the State.

The Labor Commissioner reports that he finds no less than eighteen new cotton mills are in course of construction in this State. That is a surprisingly large number.

NEWS ITEMS.

Southern Pencil Pointers. Steps are being taken in Columbia, S. C., to build a Jewish synagogue.

A section of Debs' Socialist party has been organized at Atlanta, Ga.

It is rumored that Gen. W. Vanderbilt will build a \$100,000 hospital at Asheville, N. C.

Dr. A. N. Talley, a distinguished physician, scholar and citizen, died in Columbia, S. C., of cancer of the stomach.

The Socialists of Virginia have nominated J. J. Quantz for Governor and E. Z. Maycumber for Lieutenant-Governor.

A faithful negro servant, of Memphis, Tenn., has been hit by a fortune by his dead employer.

Between three and four thousand stenographers will visit the Tennessee Centennial in August.

The Georgia Bar Association at its annual meeting favored legislation correcting faults in criminal law.

At Charlotte, N. C., Abram Davis, colored, while drunk, got into an altercation with an unknown white man. He threw a stone at the latter, who shot him in the head causing instantaneous death.

Augusta, Ga., has for the last few months been suffering from a brick famine and an ice famine, and now she is in the throes of a cotton famine. Notwithstanding she has received 100,000 bales of cotton more than her last year's receipts, she has now a stock of only 2,000 bales against 6,000 at the same period last year.

W. A. Allen, James Allen, Lindsey Allen, Mock Tunstall, Asa Barr and Porter Averill were instantly killed by a boiler explosion on the farm of W. A. Allen, near Hartsville, Tenn.

A dispatch from Kansas City, Mo., says farm labor is scarce, and at many of the railroad stations farmers await incoming trains, hoping to find men. Tramps are refusing offers of \$1.50 a day and even \$2 to work in the fields.

West Robinson and John Dresler, two enthusiastic wheelmen, have reached Atlanta, Ga., after having ridden 1,000 miles in ten days, averaging about 100 miles a day.

At a meeting of the Southern Laundry Association at Asheville, N. C., John A. Nicholas, of that city, was re-elected president; A. A. Bretaker, of Spartanburg, vice president; F. D. Lethco, of Charlotte, secretary and treasurer. The next meeting will be held in Spartanburg.

A petition is being circulated in Charlotte, N. C., for the pardon of J. R. Holland, who was sentenced in 1896 to the Albany, N. Y., penitentiary for embezzlement of the funds of the Merchants and Farmers' National Bank, of the above city. He was sentenced for seven years and has already served two.

At Lexington, Ky., while a gang of workmen were excavating on the line of the street railway, one of them struck what appeared to be a piece of pipe, but which proved to be a sixty-four pound dynamite cartridge. A fearful explosion followed, and five of the six negroes in the gang were blown to atoms.

All About the North. The International Gold Mining convention, which met at Denver, Col., has adjourned and will meet next at Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Merchants' Association of New York has drawn 2,000 new Western immigrants to New York, who formerly traded in Chicago.

At Cleveland, O., Judge Ong, of the Common Pleas Court, has handed down a decision declaring that the law under which members of the Cleveland baseball club were arrested for playing on Sunday is unconstitutional.

A dispatch from Terre Haute, Ind., says Kelly and Westville companies of Spartanburg district have posted notices of an increase of 10 cents a ton in the wages for mining coal. The object of this is to keep their men at work and thus break the backbone of the strike.

An electric car went through an open draw at Bay City, Mich. A woman and three children were drowned.

At Chicago, Pittsburg and other Northern cities many deaths and prostrations are reported from the intense heat.

Several thousand excursionists were prostrated by a storm, which swept over a grove near Huron, O., and many injured.

Forteen people were killed in a cloudburst and cyclone near Duluth, Minn. The damage to railroads and crops is over \$1,000,000.

Congressman Edward Dean Coke, of Chicago, was found dead in his room at the Cochran Hotel, Washington, from a clot on the heart.

The Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks met in Minneapolis. The report shows the present membership to be 35,000, an increase of 7,000 in one year.

THE TARIFF BILL PASSED.

Result Was 38 for the Bill and 28 Against.

HAD A MAJORITY OF TEN.

The Wilson Anti-Trust Section is Re-Enacted, and the Stamp Tax on Bonds Added to the Bill.

Washington, July 7.—(Special.)—By the decisive vote of 38 to 28, the tariff bill was passed in the Senate shortly before 5 o'clock today. The culmination of the long and arduous struggle had excited the keenest interest, and the floor and galleries of the Senate chambers were crowded by those anxious to witness the closing scenes. Speaker Reed, Chairman Dingley and many of the members of the House of Representatives were in the rear area, while every seat in the galleries was those reserved for foreign representatives was occupied.

The early part of the day was spent on amendments of comparatively minor importance, the debate branching into financial and anti-trust channels. By 4 o'clock Senators began manifesting their impatience by calls of "vote" and soon thereafter the final vote began. There were many interruptions as pairs were arranged and then at 4:55 the Vice-President arose and announced the passage of the bill, yeas 38, nays 28. There was no demonstration, but a few scattered hand clappings were given as the yeas dispersed. The vote in detail follows:

Yeas—Allison, Baker, Burrows, Carter, Clark, Cullom, Davis, Deboe, Elkins, Fairbanks, Foraker, Gallinger, Hale, Hanna, Hawley, Jones of Nevada, Lodge, McBride, McHenry, McMillan, Mantle, Mason, Morrill, Nelson, Penrose, Perkins, Platt, of Connecticut, Platt of New York, Pritchard, Proctor, Quay, Sewall, Shoup, Spooner, Warren, Wellington, Wetmore and Wilson—38.

Nays—Bacon, Bate, Berry, Caffery, Cannon, Chilton, Clay, Cokerell, Faulkner, Gray, Harris of Kansas, Jones of Arkansas, Kennedy, Lindsay, Mallory, Martin, Mills, Mitchell, Morgan, Pasco, Pettus, Rawlings, Roach, Turner, Turpie, Vest, Walliath and White—28.

The following pairs were announced, the first named would have voted for the bill and the last named against it: Aldrich and Murphy, Chandler and McLaurin, Frye and Gorman, Gear and Smith, Hansborough and Daniel. Hoar was absent from the Senate, Thurston and Tillman, Wolcott and George.

An analysis of the final vote shows the affirmative was cast by 35 Republicans, 2 silver Republicans, Jones of Nevada, and Mantle, and one Democrat, McHenry; total, 38. The negative vote was cast by 28 Democrats, two Populists, Harris of Kansas, and Turner, and one silver Republican, Cannon; total, 28.

Eight Republicans were paired for the bill and eight Democrats against it. The Senate present and not voting were: Populists, E. Allen, Butler, Heitfeld, Kyle and Stewart; silver Republicans, 2, viz., Teller and Pettigrew.

Following the passing of the bill a resolution was agreed to asking the House for a conference, and Senators Allison, Aldrich, Platt, of Connecticut, Burrows, Jones, of Nevada; Vest, Jones, of Arkansas, and White were named as conferees on the part of the Senate.

The tariff debate began on May 25, on which day Mr. Aldrich, in behalf of the finance committee, made the opening statement on the bill. The actual consideration of the bill began on the 26th, when schedule A, relating to chemicals, was taken up. The debate has been continuous since then, covering six weeks, and one day. It has been notable in some respects, inasmuch as it has not been the dramatic and erratic features marking past debates. From the outset the advocates of the bill refrained from set speeches, and the discussion was narrowed to a consideration of rates and schedules rather than general debates. Mr. Aldrich's illness took him from the chamber after the first day, and since then the bill has been in immediate charge of Mr. Allison. The opposition has been directed in the main by Mr. Jones of Arkansas, and Mr. Vest of Missouri, while Senators White, Caffery, Gray and Allen have frequently figured in the debate. The bill, as it goes back to the House, re-enacts the anti-trust section of the Wilson act, while the reciprocity and retaliatory provisions are substitutes for those of the House. One of the most important provisions added by the Senate is that placing a stamp tax on bonds, debentures and certificates of stock. Aside from these more important changes, the bill, as it goes back to the House, has 874 amendments of various degrees of importance which must be reconciled by the two branches of Congress.

The tariff bill was then taken up and Mr. Allison proceeded to perfect its phraseology. Now came the final vote which has been so eagerly awaited. The keenest interest was manifested throughout the crowded chamber. It was 4:37 p. m. when the Vice-President announced that the bill was on its final passage, and the roll call began. At 4:55 p. m. the Vice-President announced: "Senators, on this vote the yeas are 38, the nays 28, and the bill is passed."

It was arranged that the bill as passed should be printed with the sections and paragraphs renumbered.

Will Force Payment From Spain. The United States Senate committee on foreign relations have through Senator Lodge, reported a resolution authorizing the President to "take such measures as he may deem necessary to obtain the indemnity from the Spanish government for the wrongs and injuries suffered by August Edolton and Gustave Richlieu, two naturalized American citizens, by reason of their wrongful arrest by Spanish authorities at Santiago de Cuba, in the year 1895."

FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Report of the Proceedings from Day to Day.

SENATE. JULY 5TH.—In some respects the Senate made good progress, disposing of two important amendments—that placing a stamp tax being agreed to, with little or opposition, and with-out the formality of a vote, while the Spooner amendment, proposing a tariff investigation, was withdrawn after a protracted struggle. Late in the day several new amendments from individual members were voted on. An amendment to admit books free was defeated.

JULY 6TH.—In the Senate it was decided to limit the speeches on the tariff to the five-minute rule, and that the final vote on the bill shall be taken before adjournment on the 7th. During the day the anti-trust question was debated at length, and Pettus' amendment on the subject was defeated, 26 to 31. Allen, of Nebraska, again offered the amendment for a sub-committee on best sugar. It led to lively and somewhat personal speeches from the two Nebraska Senators, after which the Allen amendment was tabled, 57 to 9.

JULY 7TH.—By a decisive vote of 38 to 28, the tariff bill was passed in the Senate. One Democrat voted with the Republicans, while two Populists and one Silver Republican voted with the Democrats. Nearly a thousand amendments were carried back to the House and yet to be reconsidered by both branches of Congress.

JULY 8TH.—The session of the Senate was uneventful. An invitation was accepted for the United States to participate in the Paris Exposition, and a special commission is to be appointed. The deficiency appropriation bill carrying \$9,811,465 was considered throughout the day. A new committee amendment was agreed to, appropriating \$1,000,000 in full indemnity to the heirs of the Italians lynched in New Orleans, in 1891. Butler, of North Carolina, offered an amendment limiting the cost of armor plate for new battleships to \$200 per ton, and providing for a government armor plant, if private bids were not within \$200. The amendment went over.

JULY 9TH.—The Senate met under the distressing influences of the death of Senator Harris, and of the Wheel-er amendment. Senator Bate paid a high tribute to the memory of the distinguished dead, and then resolutions were adopted for a public funeral in the Senate chamber, to be held on the 10th, to which the President, Cabinet, Supreme Court and diplomatic corps were invited, after which, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the Senate adjourned.

JULY 10TH.—The conferees on the tariff bill suspended their labors long enough to attend the funeral ceremonies conducted over the remains of the late Senator Harris, but resolved before dispersing for this purpose to reassemble immediately after the conclusion of the obsequies, and to continue their work not only tonight, but all day. The decision to sit on Sunday was not reached without some hesitation, but was based upon, as necessary to expedite the reporting of the bill.

HOUSE. JULY 5TH.—In the House the blind chaplain in his invocation referred to the spirit of Independence Day, which he said, gave to the immortal Declaration of Independence the force of law, and the formation of a republic which has been the inspiration of the whole world, for a larger liberty and higher civilization, after which followed immediately a patriotic motion to adjourn, which prevailed, after a slight hitch, until the 7th.

JULY 7TH.—The House met at noon, after a recess taken on the 5th, in anticipation of the possibility of the tariff bill. The House met at 10 o'clock, and endeavored to suspend the rules and have the Senate Cuban belligerency resolution passed, but a motion to adjourn prevailed by a vote of 194 to 164.

JULY 8TH.—The House sent the tariff bill to conference. Chairman Dingley, Payne, of New York; Dalzell, of Pennsylvania; Hopkins, of Illinois, and Grosvenor, of Ohio, Republicans, and Bailey, of Texas; McMillan, of Tennessee, and Wheeler, of Alabama, Democrats, were appointed conferees. The proceedings were in nowise sensational. Bailey's allusion to Cuba was warmly applauded by the Democrats, who renewed their demonstration when he said that the President had found time to send a special ambassador 3,000 miles to attend the festivities in honor of a European monarch, but none to send even a message of sympathy to the people struggling for freedom at our very doors. Most of the afternoon was spent in eulogies on the life and pursuits of the memory of Wm. S. Helman, of Indiana.

THE RUIZ CLAIM. The United States Makes a Demand Upon Spain for \$150,000.

The State Department officials at Washington, after weeks of hard work, have completed the preparation of our case in the prosecution of the Ruiz claim, and after receiving the approval of the President, it will be turned over to Minister Woodford for presentation to the Madrid foreign office. He sails from New York on the 28th inst. In the preparation of this case, Mr. Calhoun, the United States special commissioner, has tabled the principal part, but the law officers of the State Department have done much to present the facts clearly by firm in the strongest light, and to establish a good basis for the claim of indemnity, fixed at \$150,000, which is to be urged against the Spanish government.

Foreigner Tears up the Flag. At Mt. Vernon, N. Y., much indignation was occasioned because of the destruction of a flag by Antonio Larone. Charles H. Phillips, a patriotic American living in Fulton avenue, placed a small American flag on his front fence, to pieces. Phillips, who happened to see the incident, gave him a severe thrashing. Phillips did not let up until the man begged for mercy and promised never again to insult the Star Spangled Banner.

COAL MINERS' STRIKE.

The Great Struggle is Now on in Earnest.

MINERS ARE STILL AT WORK

And the Operators Say They Can Run To Prevent Unlawful Interference, Etc.

The strike order of the national executive board of the United Mine Workers of America has been obeyed by from 1,000 to 2,000 of the 21,000 miners of the Pittsburgh district. The great struggle is now on in earnest, and the developments of the next few days will determine the success or failure of the fight for a uniform mining rate.

While it is estimated that at least two-thirds of the miners have thrown down their picks, enough men are still at work, however, to seriously impair the chances, unless they can ultimately be brought out. This, the president says with confidence, will be done. The operators, on the other hand, state that they cannot continue to run.

UNITED STATES PROTECTION. A very important step has been taken at Cincinnati in connection with the local coal miners' strike, which puts the power of the United States against all violence or unlawful acts in at least a portion of the territory in Ohio. An order of the United States Circuit Court for the southern district of Ohio, eastern division, was made by Judge Taft, on a showing made by M. T. Herrick and Robert Bickenseder, receivers of the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad Company, and of the Wheel-er & Pittsburg Coal Company, whereby the United States marshal is directed to protect their miners at work, and to prevent unlawful interference with the operation of their railroad.

GOVERNMENT CROP REPORT.

Conditions in the Southern States Not so Favorable on Account of Heat.

The United States Weather Bureau, in its report of crop conditions for the week ended July 5th says: In the States of the Central Valley, Lake region and New England, the week ending July 5th has been very favorable to crops, the higher temperature being especially favorable to corn. In the Southern States the conditions have been less favorable, the excessive heat and absence of rainfall proving injurious to most crops. On the Pacific coast the week has been very favorable. In the principal crop States for the central valleys corn has made rapid growth, but in the Southern States it is suffering for rain, in some sections seriously. Excessive rains in Missouri have retarded cultivation, and the crop is still backward in Minnesota. In Texas, while the late plant is suffering from drought, taken all in all, it is doing very well.

Cotton is seedling rain over the greater part of the cotton belt, more particularly the Southern portion. The crop is generally clean and fruiting well. A marked improvement is reported from Mississippi, North Carolina and parts of Florida.

The bulk of the winter wheat crop is now harvested south of the fortieth parallel, about the latitude of the central portions of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. Excessive rains have retarded harvesting in Missouri, and caused further damage to grain in shock. Good progress in harvesting has been made in Nebraska and northern Indiana, and harvesting will soon begin in Nebraska, Pacific coast and California, where harvesting is progressing rapidly. The grain is shrunken less than was anticipated.

Spring wheat continues to make favorable progress and is now heading well over the southern portions of the spring wheat region. In Oregon the best crop for years is promised.

Tobacco has continued to improve generally, but is still in poor condition in Kentucky. A marked improvement is reported from Ohio, and the crop is doing well in Missouri, Pennsylvania and Maryland. Transplanting has been completed in New England and New York, and cutting is in progress in the Carolinas.

BIG TROLLEY DEAL IN AFRICA

Americans Granted Large Concessions in Johannesburg. At Oakland, Cal., Henry A. Butters has received word that his syndicate had been declared a concession covering the entire electric street railways of Johannesburg, which throws the entire electric street railway system of South Africa into the hands of the Butters syndicate.

Americans heavily interested are: J. K. Waterman, formerly general freight manager of the Colorado Millard Railway of Denver; John Elays Hammond, of the Jameson road conspiracy; Henry Butters and his brother, Charles Butters.

Against Any Sort of Fusion. At Nashville, Tenn., the National conference of the middle-of-the-road Populists met Tuesday, several hundred delegates being in attendance. The conference was called to order by Mills Parks, of Texas, and is strongly against any sort of fusion.